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Swedes To Air Spy Tale

Wennerstrom Speaks Freely

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STOCKHOLM — The Swed-

ish government will provide American intelligence officials with a full report of the information obtained from Col. Stig Wennerstrom regarding his espionage for the Russians during the five-year period he served as air attache at the Swedish embassy in Washington.

This information, brought out in the course of 10 months of intensive interrogation of Wennerstrom by Prosecutor Werner Rhyninger and his assistants, is understood to cover several hundred pages of a report now in the possession of the court where the Swedish officer is on trial here.

While Wennerstrom was stubborn and uncooperative under questioning, and frequently contradictory, it's learned that he talked freely of his espionage involving foreign countries, knowing this was outside the jurisdiction of the Swedish courts and could only bring him a reprimand for misbehavior.

Swedish government officials have been greatly disturbed from the outset of the Wennerstrom case regarding its possible repercussions in limiting the contacts of Swedish diplomats and service officers abroad, and are anxious to make amends by providing information which may serve at least to minimize the damage done by Wennerstrom.

While the formal charges against Wennerstrom are based on his disclosure of Swedish military information to the Russians, the court is being given as full a picture as possible of his over-all activities since it's often impossible to distinguish between Swedish and foreign military information.

For instance, Wennerstrom is said to have given the Russians detailed information regarding the American Falcon missile manufactured in Sweden under a secret license agreement with the United States and with which the most modern units of the Swedish air force are equipped. This is regarded as a betrayal of both Swedish and American military secrets.

Wennerstrom's greatest contribution to the Russians is said to have dealt with the NATO defense plans in the north embracing Norway and Denmark.

Reports that Wennerstrom may have had a mysterious accomplice are refuted in an interview appearing in the Swedish newspaper Expressen with Dr. Gunther Otto Gustaf Prey, the 66-year-old stateless suspect, now in Hamburg. Prey admit having done "big business" with Wennerstrom, but denies he was involved in spying.

Prey confirmed he was recently in Stockholm "to clear his name" and voluntarily explained to Prosecutor Rhyninger his relationship with Wennerstrom.

The Wennerstrom trial moved swiftly to the second charge against the Swedish officer dealing with his espionage in Washington.

The trial continues behind locked doors, ignoring a written protest by Wennerstrom smuggled to a member of the jury demanding an open hearing.

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